

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

July 29, 2005

SPENCER B. DICK, DAVID LEE and DAVID A. MORGAN

Serial No.

10/645,828

Art Unit 2854

Filed

August 20, 2003

Examiner W. Hamdan

For

SALVAGE METHODS AND APPARATUS

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Applicants received a Notice of Allowance dated April 29, 2005 on the aboveidentified patent application. In the Notice, the Examiner allowed claims 1-8, 16 and 17. The Examiner also paraphrased applicants' claimed invention as part of the stated reasons for allowance. Applicants agree with the Examiner's conclusions regarding the patentability of the allowed claims, without necessarily agreeing with or acquiescing in the Examiner's reasoning. In particular, applicants believe that the application is allowable because the prior art fails to teach or suggest the invention as claimed, independent of how the invention is paraphrased.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions or comments, or if applicants can be of any assistance in expediting issuance of the patent.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Respectfully submitted,

hereby certify correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop ISSUE FEE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on July 29, 2005.

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Total Number of Pages in This Submission 3		Patent and T lection of inf 10/645, August Spence 2854	er B. Dick em H. Hamdan
Fee Transmittal Form Fee Attached Amendment/Reply After Final	Drawing(s) Licensing-related Papers Petition Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocatio Change of Correspondence A Terminal Disclaimer Request for Refund CD, Number of CD(s) Landscape Table on CI arks	on Address	After Allowance Communication to TC Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): 1. Issue Fee Transmittal; 2. Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance; 3. check for \$1000; and 4. return receipt postcard
Firm Name Kolisch/Alestwall, P.C. Signature	OF APPLICANT, ATTO	RNEY, C	OR AGENT
Printed name Pierre C. Van Rysselbergne Date July 29, 2005		Reg. No.	33,557

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Pamela A. Knight

Typed or printed name

Date

July 29, 2005